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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/646,227	08/22/2003	Juci-Seng Liao	SIS.0157US (PE-24874-AM)	1390
21906	7590	07/03/2006	EXAMINER	
TROP PRUNER & HU, PC 1616 S. VOSS ROAD, SUITE 750 HOUSTON, TX 77057-2631			DEXTER, CLARK F	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3724	

DATE MAILED: 07/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/646,227	LIAO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Clark F. Dexter	3724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 2-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 22 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because of the following informalities:

In Figure 3, a numeral (e.g., 24') should be added to indicate the lower connecting rod(s).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner,

the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 5, lines 11-12, a numeral (e.g., 24') should be inserted after "lower connecting rods" to indicate the lower connecting rod(s).

On page 7, line 4, "524" is inaccurate and should read --424--.

On page 8, lines 4 and lines 5, 7 and 10, the two uses of "transverse" renders the description confusing, and it is suggested in line 4 to change "transverse" --substantially orthogonally-- or the like.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 5-6 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 5, line 18, the recitation "said transverse direction" is not sufficiently clear as to what it refers, particularly in view of the use of "transverse" in line 15.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 3724

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Odlum et al.,
pn 2,740,437.

Odlum discloses a table saw with every structural limitation of the claimed
invention including:

a base (e.g., 11);

a saw blade (e.g., 12) mounted rotatably on said base;

a rail unit (e.g., 35) mounted on said base and extending in a longitudinal
direction;

a rip fence unit including a rip fence (e.g., 14) that extends a transverse direction
relative to said longitudinal direction, and a sliding member (e.g., 28) that is secured to
said rip fence and that is disposed above and mounted slidably on said rail unit so as to
be slideable toward and away from said saw blade in said longitudinal direction; and

a positioning unit mounted on said rip fence unit and including a clamping
member (e.g., 39, 44) that is disposed below and swingable toward and away from said
rail unit, and that is operable by an external force applied thereto so as to swing
between a clamping position, in which said clamping member abuts against said rail unit
and cooperates with said sliding member to clamp said rail unit therebetween, thereby
arresting sliding movement of said sliding member on said rail unit, and a releasing
position, in which said clamping member is disconnected from said rail unit so as to permit
sliding movement of said sliding member together with said rip fence on said rail unit.

7. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tautz, pn 2,325,082

Tautz discloses a table saw with every structural limitation of the claimed invention including:

a base (e.g., 1);

a saw blade mounted rotatably on said base;

a rail unit (e.g., 10) mounted on said base and extending in a longitudinal direction;

a rip fence unit including a rip fence (e.g., 13) that extends a transverse direction relative to said longitudinal direction, and a sliding member (e.g., 15) that is secured to said rip fence and that is disposed above and mounted slidably on said rail unit so as to be slidable toward and away from said saw blade in said longitudinal direction; and

a positioning unit mounted on said rip fence unit and including a clamping member (e.g., 19, 43) that is disposed below and swingable toward and away from said rail unit, and that is operable by an external force applied thereto so as to swing between a clamping position, in which said clamping member abuts against said rail unit and cooperates with said sliding member to clamp said rail unit therebetween, thereby arresting sliding movement of said sliding member on said rail unit, and a releasing position, in which said clamping member is disconnected from said rail unit so as to permit sliding movement of said sliding member together with said rip fence on said rail unit.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 2-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clark F. Dexter whose telephone number is (571)272-4505. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer D. Ashley can be reached on (571)272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Clark F. Dexter
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3724

cfd
June 26, 2006